

Packing Checklist


Azores Horses, Whales and Volcanos Tour

Below is a gear list of required and optional items to bring on your adventure. Try your best to avoid cotton clothing for being active in, looking instead for clothing made of nylon, polyester, wool, etc. Please ensure you check the local forecast before your trip and pack accordingly.

Required Items

- Main piece of luggage
- Riding breeches or other comfortable fitted stretchy pants for riding (yoga tights or skinny jeans with flat inner seams will work in a pinch).
- Lightweight hiking pants
- T-shirts to your preference and length of trip (merino wool is recommended, but polyester, or even cotton on a hot day, are fine)
- Comfortable loose shirt (with pockets and SPF)
- Underwear as required for the length of the trip
- Comfortable and supportive sports bra
- Socks: three or four pairs. Merino wool is recommended.
- Light wind/rain proof tops/bottoms (a MUST have item)**
- Riding boots with a heel. Water (rain) resistant boots are recommended.
- Hiking boots. An all-terrain riding/hybrid boot is ideal, such as the [Ariat Terrain](#) or similar) as it can be both a riding boot and a hiking boot. Water (rain) resistant boots are recommended.
- Leather or synthetic half chaps (if you have your own)
- Gloves for riding (lightweight work or gardening gloves also work well)
- Bandana or neck gaiter (good for extra sun and dust protection)
- Sun hat (either a wide brimmed hat or baseball type cap)
- A couple of sets of comfy casual clothes for evenings at the lodge
- Fleece, wool sweater or jacket (for cooler nights)
- Lightweight walking shoes or sandals
- Lightweight warm hat/beanie (for colder nights and mornings at the lodge (autumn trips)
- Pyjamas

- Toiletries : biodegradable shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, razor, lip balm, hand and body lotion, hair brush, etc.
- Insect repellent (for June/July/August trips)
- Sun block
- Lip balm with sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Bathing suit
- Refillable water bottle
- Alcohol-based sanitizer and face masks

 Note: Individual bags on the saddle are not accepted. You will be provided with a saddle bag for a small water bottle (also provided), lip balm, sunscreen, phone. Backpacks are not allowed while riding, but a small waist pack may be worn.

Optional Items

- Sarong or light scarf
- Small Pillow (for travelling)
- Binoculars (for bird/whale watching)
- Water shoes for ocean swimming
- Pencil and Notebook/Journal
- iPod/mp3 player
- Reading material
- Camera with extra batteries and card
- Personal first aid kit: for any essential items that you know you'll need (e.g. blister treatment if you are prone to blisters, ibuprofen, etc.). Your guides will carry a group first aid kit.
- Energy snacks and drinks: while snacks will be provided, you may like to bring some along too if you have special dietary needs or personal favourites.
- Nuun re-hydration tablets
- Chafing cream or powder (found in bicycle shops)
- Pair of cycling shorts/ padded underwear to help reduce sore bums and chaffing
- Small flashlight or headlamp
- Riding Helmet - Helmets are provided, but your own is always best – they are required to be worn while riding.
- Wearable water bladder, such as the [Camelbak Bootlegger](#) (note it must be low profile and worn under clothing - no backpack versions allowed).

Essential Documents

- Passport: stored in a waterproof wallet/ zip lock bag (if applicable)
- Passport copies: please bring a photocopy of your passport (if applicable)
- Money: cash in local currency, credit/debit cards with pin number for cash withdrawals
- Air tickets and itinerary: your international and domestic itinerary and tickets (plus photocopies)
- Negative Covid-19 PCR Test Results (if applicable)
- Approved Covid-19 Vaccination Certificate (if applicable)

Packing Notes

Luggage Logistics

Prepare for lost or delayed luggage by wearing or carrying on the items that are essential to your adventure such as an active outfit and your hiking boots. In your day pack (your carry on), you should bring a full change of clothes, your waterproof jacket, toiletries, medications, camera and all paperwork.

It is recommended you have one small waterproof bag (10-liter dry bag) for your documents, camera, etc., that you can carry on motorboat trips. It is especially important that electronic equipment such as digital cameras, video cameras, etc. is fully waterproofed.

Each day you will take the essentials with you in your day pack or saddlebags/pockets. Your guides will let you know any specific items that might be helpful for each activity. You will not return to the lodge and the rest of your luggage until the end of each day.

Your Daypack Essentials (for all activities including horseback riding) are:

- Sunblock (a small one will last for your whole trip)
- Lip balm with sunscreen
- Camera/phone
- Light rain jacket
- Sun glasses
- Personal medication- any medication you might need, for example an asthma inhaler, heart medication or for a diabetic; insulin, glucose etc.
- Refillable water bottle

Your Daypack Optional Items (for hiking and other activities) are:

- Insect repellent
- Lip balm with sunscreen
- Binoculars
- Refillable water bottle
- Nuun re-hydration tablets
- Snacks
- Extra t-shirt
- Extra pair of socks
- Blister care
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer and face masks
- Extra shirt or jacket (they won't fit in the saddle bags but could be tied tightly around the waist while riding)

Resources for Buying Outdoor Gear & Clothing

- Mountain Equipment Co-op (Canada) or REI (USA): Membership is required for both but so worth it! Both companies have great learning resources, so check them out!
- Borrow: Why buy when you can borrow from a friend?!
- Variety/Value Village, Goodwill and Salvation Army are also great places to find second-hand items like sports shirts and fleece sweaters that are quick-drying, for a fraction of the price! Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!